



# Parma Woods

Shooting Range and  
Outdoor Education Center

Spring 2006

## Longer Days and More Daylight

The clocks will once again spring forward on April 2. With this increase in evening daylight length, I encourage everyone to get out and enjoy the wonderful spring bounty provided by Mother Nature. With so many great things going on, it is sometimes hard to know where to start. So I have included some suggestions.

In early April, come out to Parma Woods to enjoy the wonderful array of wildflowers in bloom. In particular, look for showy white flowers like spring beauty, white trillium, and Dutchman's breeches. Purples and blues abound with flowers like spiderworts, violets, and phlox. Keep your eyes open for bright red columbines on rocky ledges and hillsides. With some luck, you might even find something really rare like a yellow lady's slipper orchid or perhaps a Jack-in-the-pulpit. Please enjoy these flowers, but do not pick them. Cutting flowers steals their beauty from others who wish to enjoy them. It also removes the seeds of the flowers which reduces blooming the following spring.



Hunters beware, spring turkey season begins on April 24. Make sure you are ready for 'Ol Tom' by coming out to the range early to pattern your scattergun before the rush. If you need any assistance, be sure to ask the range staff for advice, or attend our preseason seminars and classes geared towards chasing that elusive longbeard.

Other users can enjoy the spring migrations of many birds including warblers, hummingbirds, orioles, and indigo buntings. Don't forget about wild edibles such as savory morel mushrooms, dandelions for fritters, and clovers and chicory for salads and teas.

I challenge all of you to get out and enjoy the wonderful weather and extra hours of daylight this spring. Remember to wear a quality insect repellant to keep the chiggers and the ticks from ruining your trip. So grab the family and head out to Parma Woods for a full day of springtime fun.

*Nathan Woodland*

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## Range Hours

April: Friday-Tuesday, noon to 4:30 pm

May/June: Friday-Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm

May/June: Monday-Tuesday, 2 to 8 pm

The range is closed Wednesday, Thursday, & state holidays

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# Spring Events Calendar

All classes are free unless otherwise noted. All equipment is provided free by the Missouri Department of Conservation. You must pre-register by calling 816-891-9941.

## APRIL

### Shotgun Patterning

Learn how to pattern your own shotgun.

**April 4** (Tues.), 6-8 pm

### Turkey Calling

Learn how to call in a spring gobbler.

**April 5** (Wed.), 6-8 pm

### How to Build a Turkey Blind

Learn how to build a simple blind that will help you bag a turkey.

**April 6** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

### Mushroom Hunting

Learn about some common mushrooms and where to find them.

**April 7** (Fri.), 6-8 pm

### G.P.S. Class

Learn the features of G.P.S. units and how they work.

**April 8** (Sat.), 9 am-noon

### Hunter Education Class

You must attend all three nights to become certified.

**April 11/12/13** (Tues./Wed./Thurs.), 5:30-9 pm all three nights

### Ladies Firearms - Part I

Learn to properly handle, clean, and store all types of firearms. For ladies only.

**April 14** (Fri.), 6-8 pm

### Ladies Firearms - Part II

Learn to shoot proficiently with all types of firearms. For ladies only. **Must have taken Part I.**

**April 15** (Sat.), 9 am-noon

### Basic Archery

Learn the fundamentals of archery.

**April 15** (Sat.), 9 am-noon

### Firearms Care and Cleaning

Learn how to properly clean and store all of your firearms.

**April 18** (Tues.), 6-8 pm

### How to Build a Squirrel Trap

Learn how to build a humane squirrel trap to remove unwanted pests.

**April 19** (Wed.), 6-8 pm

### Fishing Clinic

Learn all about fishing.

**April 20** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

### Map and Compass

Learn how to use a map and compass to avoid getting turned around in the woods.

**April 22** (Sat.), 9-11 am

### Hiking at Parma Woods

Join us for a guided hike on the Parma Woods Hiking Trail.

**April 27** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

### Wing-shooting Clinic

Learn how to improve your wing-shooting skills.

**April 29** (Sat.), 9 am-noon

## MAY

### Knife Sharpening

Learn to put and keep a good edge on all of your knives.

**May 3** (Wed.), 6-8 pm

### Birdhouse Building

Build a birdhouse that you can take home and hang in your backyard.

**May 4** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

### Backpacking and Camping

Learn what you need to know to make the most of your experiences.

**May 6** (Sat.), 9 am-noon

### Boy Scouts Rifle Shooting Merit Badge Day

Come out to the range to qualify for your rifle merit badge. Open only to Boy Scouts.

**May 6** (Sat.), 4 pm-dark

**RANGE CLOSED - MAY 8** (Mon.)

### Optics Class

Learn all about scopes and binoculars.

**May 10** (Wed.), 6-8 pm

### Bird Feeder Building Class

Build a simple feeder to take home that will attract a variety of birds.

**May 11** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

### Wilderness Survival

Learn some tips that may someday save your life.

**May 13** (Sat.), 9 am-noon

### Ladies Shoot Free

Bring Mom to the range to enjoy quality family entertainment.

**May 14** (Sun.), 10 am-4 pm

### How to Build a Key-Hole Fire Ring

Learn all about a key-hole fire ring.

**May 16** (Tues.), 6-8 pm

### Dutch Oven Cooking

Learn how to use one of the pioneers most prized possessions.

**May 17** (Wed.), 6-8 pm

### Basic Firearms - Part I

Learn to properly handle, clean, and store all types of firearms.

**May 18** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

### Basic Archery

Learn the fundamentals of archery.

**May 20** (Sat.), 9 am-noon

### Archery Equipment Care

Learn how to take care of your expensive equipment to make it last a long time.

**May 23** (Tues.), 6-8 pm

### How to Build a Squirrel Trap

Learn how to build a humane squirrel trap to remove unwanted pests.

**May 24** (Wed.), 6-8 pm

### Basic Firearms - Part II

Learn to shoot proficiently with all types of firearms. **Must have previously taken Part I.**

**May 25** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

### Wing-shooting - Part I

Learn how to get started in wing-shooting.

**May 26** (Fri.), 6-8 pm

### Wing-shooting - Part II

Improve your wing-shooting skills with qualified instructors. **Must attend Part I.**

**May 27** (Sat.), 8-10 am

**RANGE CLOSED - MAY 29** (Mon.)

## JUNE

### Fishing Clinic

Learn all about fishing.

**June 1** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

### W.I.T.O. Event

**June 3** (Sat.)

### Optics Class

Learn all about scopes and binoculars.

**June 7** (Wed.), 6-8 pm

### Ladies Firearms - Part I

Learn to properly handle, clean, and store all types of firearms. For ladies only.

**June 8** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

### Ladies Firearms - Part II

Learn to shoot proficiently with all types of firearms. For ladies only. **Must have taken Part I.**

**June 10** (Sat.), 8-10 am

### Modern Arrow Building

Learn how to save money by assembling your own arrows.

**June 14** (Wed.), 6-8 pm

### Intermediate Shotgun

Improve your shotgun shooting skills with our instructors. **Must have some shotgun experience to attend this class.**

**June 15** (Thurs.), 6-8 pm

### Youth .22 Rifle Class

Get your kids started in shooting. **Must be at least 8 yrs. old.**

**June 17** (Sat.), 8-10 am

### Hunter Education Day Camp

Learn firearms safety, shooting, game identification, archery, tree stand safety, and much more in this week long course. Become hunter education certified.

**Must be at least 11 yrs. old.**

**June 19-23** (Mon.-Fri.), 9 am-3 pm

### Intermediate Handgun

Improve your handgun shooting skills with our qualified instructors. **Must have some experience shooting handguns.**

**June 24** (Sat.), 9 am-noon

### N.R.A. Pistol Course

Become N.R.A. certified in pistol at the completion of this course.

**June 24** (Sat.), 8 am-6 pm

### Outdoor Skills Day Camp

A continuation of the Hunter Education Camp with more advanced firearms and archery training. Learn about wilderness survival, game care, fishing, and tracking. **Must be hunter education certified to register.**

**June 28-30** (Wed.-Fri.), 9 am-3 pm each day

## Eric Edwards is new supervisor at St. Louis County range and center

*Someone once said, "Home is where the heart is" and I have found this to be true. I am heading back to some familiar stomping grounds. As of February 16, I will be the new supervisor at the Jay Henges Shooting Range & Outdoor Education Center in St. Louis County.*

*We, the staff and the public, have made great strides at this facility starting with this newsletter. When I sent out the first one 17 months ago, there were 86 people on the mailing list, mostly friends and staff. This mailing will reach 2,600 addresses. Our patrons have done a tremendous job spreading the word about Parma Woods. The numbers in every category have seemed to jump off the page, and it is due to people like you who have helped us to grow so much in a short amount of time. I am grateful for your support.*

*My time at Parma Woods has been very fulfilling. I have met and worked with some great folks. I will miss the friendships I have forged in the Kansas City area and hope to stop by from time to time to catch up on things. I would like to thank some of the people who have helped make my time here so enjoyable.*

- *The Parma Woods staff - you make it look easy*
- *The Parma Woods Volunteer Hunter Education crew - you folks do a great job*
- *Paul Lowry, Brian Gilbert, and the rest of the Platte Falls Crew*
- *Ken Barncord, Nick LaPosha, Steve Nichols, Doug Yeager, and the whole Protection Division*
- *Phil Philips, Steve Elliot, Todd Meese, David Wyatt, Stacey Davis, Tim Miller, and everyone else in Outreach & Education*
- *The Platte City Long Spurs Chapter of the N.W.T.F.*
- *Ellen Benitz and the W.I.T.O.*
- *Jeanne Pyland - thanks for your support*
- *Phil Jeffries for always making the newsletter look great*

*And finally, THANK YOU to all the Parma Woods users. Whether you shot at the range, attended programs, or hiked the trail, your participation was greatly valued. The next time you have the opportunity to introduce someone new to the outdoor sports, please tell them about Parma Woods and all it has to offer.*

Eric Edwards



Check out the latest Parma Woods news at: [www.mdc.missouri.gov/areas/ranges/parma/](http://www.mdc.missouri.gov/areas/ranges/parma/)

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